

February 24, 1959

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Dean George R. Harrison**

**FROM: Professor Irwin W. Sizer**

**SUBJECT: Construction and equipping the new microbiology  
teaching and research laboratories**

It is proposed that Professor Luria apply to the National Science Foundation for a grant to pay for part of the changes contemplated on the fourth floor. Preliminary plans call for requesting a grant of \$100,000 to \$110,000 from the N. S. F.

There are certain costs which should come out of various funds available to M. I. T. rather than from the N. S. F. These include the following:

Air conditioning	\$18,000
Structural changes	8,000
Furniture installation costs plus teaching microscopes	12,000
Personnel - a secretary plus one person in charge of sterilization and bacteria media preparation	<u>8,000</u>
Total	\$46,000

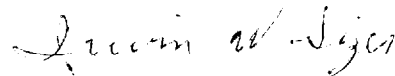
The air conditioning deserves special comment. The microbiology laboratories to be air conditioned are on the South side of Building 16. It will be impossible to do microbiology in these laboratories during the summer months without air conditioning. It is possible that some of the funds required for air conditioning may ultimately be obtained from other sources.

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There is no assurance (but very likely) that Professor Luria will receive a National Science Foundation grant for this amount. It would be most helpful if M. I. T. would underwrite this grant to the extent of \$50,000 so that alterations could start at once rather than after the grant is approved.

Construction of research laboratories on the eighth floor of Building 16: Plans are already being drawn up for these laboratories but should be considered independently of problems on the fourth floor. Professor Beckwith and his staff are drawing up preliminary plans for construction. After these plans have been reviewed by the Administration and the Department, it is proposed that we apply to the National Institutes of Health for "matching funds." Plans for the fourth floor do not include facilities for the Professor of Cell Physiology (tissue culture) since laboratories for this individual are being planned for the eighth floor.

I shall be very happy to discuss these preliminary plans with you during our conference on March second.



Irwin W. Sizer  
Head, Department of Biology

IWS:JR